

ORIGINAL

Antonio Gill

**Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.
WS-03478A-12-0307**



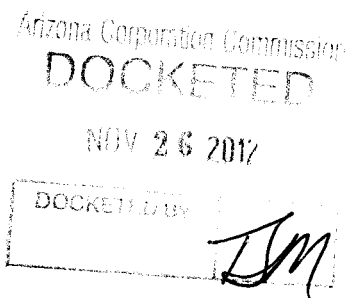
0000140578

From: Duane Berry <duanew.
Sent: Wednesday, October 1
To: Pierce-Web; ruth@desertunionsgroup.com
Subject: DOCKET NO.WS-03478A-12-0307

I am writing the commission to see if there is any chance of moving this hearing to Yuma. There are a lot of retired residents in the Foothills district that would like to attend the hearing but would be unable to make the 350 mile round trip and pay for a room.

We would appreciate your consideration of this matter. This is a very important to us. If it would help we could submit an e-petition to the commission. One other thing would there be any chance of a earlier date for the hearing as in March? A lot of the home owners leave around the 1st of April.

Thank you
Duane Berry
14359 53rd Drive
Yuma Foothills 85367
971-230-4102



RECEIVED
2012 NOV 26 P 1:42
AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Antonio Gill

From: Ken Booth <kenfletcherbooth@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 3:57 PM
To: Bill Walther; Burns-Web; Carmen Madrid; Evie & Bill; Ken; Kennedy-Web; Kenny & Donna Louser; kristin.shore@edwardjones.com; Layne and Sandy Brown; Lynn & Dean Kasnikoffs; Newman-Web; nita; Pierce-Web; Stump-Web; Thomas Galvin
Subject: FAR WEST WATER AND SEWER criticism



[« Return to Article](#)

[Click to Print](#)

Find other way to raise money

2012-10-28 23:31:17

I'm sorry but it just works me up every year when Far West Water and Sewer wants to be bailed out by raising their rates. I read their statement from the water department and they say that without this increase they will default on their loans.

Well, if I was upside down in my debt I would by the numbers do this: go to your loan holders for help or look for other help, maybe from the City of Yuma.

The last thing I would do is try to put the arm on my customers that only use my service five or six months a year and make them get up in arms to where they hope you go broke so they can gamble on the new owners.

Or maybe Far West could get their increase in rates, maybe as large as the wanted 188 percent, like a lot of cities do by basing the sewer rate on the amount of water usage each month.

The people that are not here in the summer don't have large and year-round sewer bills and the people that are here and using the service will pay. This does work. This way nobody feels they are paying the whole load.

Far West may have to bite the bullet and make operational changes for a year or so to do this, but it would be better than having to try and fail for an increase each year with 100 percent opposition.

I am not saying anything bad about the management of Far West but their problems should have been foreseen and put to bed years ago.

**John Emerson
Yuma**

Antonio Gill

From: Maureen <western.ny.blonde@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 10:33 AM
To: Pierce-Web; Newman-Web; Burns-Web; Stump-Web; Kennedy-Web
Subject: Far West Water & Sewer, Docket # WS-03478A-12-0307

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

Kindly allow this email to serve as notice that I am adamantly opposed to the 188% sewer rate increase requested by Far West Water & Sewer, Inc. (Docket WS-03478A-12-0307.)

As it stands, those residents of the Foothills utilizing sewer services provided by Far West are charged a flat rate of \$21.75 per month. This flat rate is collected each of the twelve months of the year, regardless of residency. The Foothills area east of the city of Yuma is home to tens of thousands of seasonal visitors, who pay for twelve months of sewer service while only being in residence in the Foothills five or six months of the year. I am employed full time and am a year around Yuma Foothills resident and I find this practice of charging seasonal customers for services not used to be grossly unfair, and one that shouldn't be permitted to exist.

Further, Far West's attention to meeting the needs of its customers has long been less than satisfactory. A most recent example would be the severe monsoon that occurred in Yuma over a period of days in early September, in which thousands lost electric and water/sewer services. While APS was working around the clock to get power restored, Far West had no such contingency plan for such an emergency. The City of Yuma, desiring to loan generators to Far West in order to expedite the return of service to Foothills residents, was unable to reach a single soul at Far West because the City had no contact information for Far West. Foothills residents were without water/sewer services *for three days*.

I also am greatly concerned about the dates of the hearings for Far West's request. The hearings scheduled for April 22-24, 2013, during working hours, *in Phoenix*, has the potential to exclude thousands of rightfully concerned Far West consumers. Many of the seasonal visitors will have departed for their summer residences, the older residents may find it physically and or financially unfeasible to travel to Phoenix, and those of us who work full-time will be unavailable to travel to Phoenix to take part in said hearings. I respectfully request that the Arizona Corporation Commission hold a hearing in Yuma to allow for maximum participation by Foothills residents.

In closing I would like to reiterate my position on Far West's rate increase. I am resolute in my belief that a nearly-triple rate increase is beyond the pale; it is not only shocking, it borders on the criminal.

I respectfully request that the Arizona Corporation Commission very carefully consider Far West's request for such a drastic, and in my opinion undeserving, rate increase. Yuma County has one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation, and Yuma County is one of the poorest counties in Arizona. While a nominal rate increase may, *may*, be warranted (I remain unconvinced that *any* rate increase is justified based on Far West's history of poor service) certainly a 188% increase is not.

Thank you for your service to Arizonans and for your consideration of the points I have outlined above.

Maureen Lee

13795 E. 46th Drive

Yuma, Arizona 85367

928.287.5733